

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION P.O. Box 600 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

JON S. CORZINE Governor STEPHEN DILTS
Commissioner

May 1, 2009

The Honorable James L. Oberstar Chairman, House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee 2165 Rayburn Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John L. Mica Ranking Member, House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee 2163 Rayburn Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Oberstar and Ranking Member Mica:

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) strongly supports the Route 49-Buckshutem as a high priority project with \$9 million in the next surface transportation authorization bill. Funding this project will improve traffic movement in Cumberland County.

The funding will improve a presently configured six-legged intersection that exhibits substandard geometric features, safety and operational problems. The proposed project creates a new four-legged intersection and realigns two local routes that originally connected to Route 49. These improvements will significantly improve traffic for local residents, commuters, emergency responders and trucks.

The project is in the Fiscal Year 2009-2018 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STiP) under the FY 2009-2010 NJTPA Study & Development Program. Prior to Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) approval of the STIP, there is a public comment period. The HPP funds would fund over 80% of the project.

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Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or for additional information.

Sincerely,

Stephen Dilts Commissioner

cc: The Honorable Frank LoBiondo